



June 14, 2017

## **U.S. ARMY BIRTHDAY**

### **On its 242nd birthday, the Army is training for 'the new character of war'**

ArmyTimes.com, June 13

*The Army turns 242 years old today, but this year, the service's acting secretary is looking back to World War I for guidance.*

## **AFGHANISTAN**

### **Mattis: 'We are not winning in Afghanistan,' new strategy is weeks away**

Washington Post, June 13

*A new strategy for Afghanistan is weeks away, Defense Secretary Jim Mattis told the SASC in a statement that frustrated some lawmakers awaiting a way forward in the U.S.' longest war.*

### **Sending More Troops to Afghanistan Will Require More Money: Mattis**

DoD Buzz, June 13

*The U.S. Defense Department's budget for the next fiscal year is already expected to total nearly \$640 billion, but Defense Secretary Jim Mattis said he'll need even more money to boost American troop levels in Afghanistan.*

## **GLOBAL AND STRATEGIC VIEW**

### **Destroying a Philippine City to Save It From ISIS Allies**

New York Times, June 13

*As the siege of the southern Philippine city of Marawi enters its fourth week, more than 200 people have been killed and much of the city lies in ruins.*

### **Iran attempts to expand control through Syria as ISIS nears defeat**

USA Today, June 13

*New efforts by Iranian-backed militias to control supply lines in southern Syria highlight an alarming trend in the war-torn region.*

### **ISIS' Chemical Weapons Capability Collapses In Syria After Battlefield Losses**

Newsweek, June 13

*As ISIS continues to lose territory in Iraq and Syria, its chemical weapons capabilities this year have been severely reduced.*

## **THREAT NETWORKS**

### **ISIS Calls for More Attacks During Ramadan**

The Atlantic, June 13

*In an audio message awaiting independent authentication, the Islamic State reportedly calls upon its members to attack a set of nations during Ramadan—an annual, month-long observance among Muslims that commemorates the first revelation of the prophet Muhammad.*

## **INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **The Pentagon Looks to Videogames for the Future of War**

WIRED, June 13

*What if, for example, the best game developers produced tools for the Pentagon? And then what if those tools ended up back in games?*

### **Marine 'Uber Squad' Will Get Suppressors, M27s, SOCOM Gear**

Military.com, June 13

*As the Marine Corps continues to emphasize innovation and experiments with new gear, service officials are getting ready to equip a single infantry squad with an enviable range of equipment, from suppressors to polymer drum mags and special operations-issue hearing protection.*

## **COUNTER-UAS**

### **DoD Seeks New Authority for Drone Countermeasures**

Secrecy News, June 13

*Unmanned aerial systems (UAS or drones) could be used by malicious actors to conduct unauthorized surveillance or to deliver hazardous payloads with IEDs.*

## **READINESS**

### **GAO report shows critical readiness problems for key military branches**

USA TODAY, June 13

*U.S. military forces, strained by combat since 2001, are no longer capable of protecting vital American interests, Pentagon officials have told government auditors.*

### **Science Fiction Becomes Reality: Pentagon Shows Off Hi-Tech Battlefield Tools**

CBN News, June 13

*When it comes to a hi-tech military, drones are only the beginning. Future weapons look like they're out of science fiction, complete with robots running on artificial intelligence.*

## **WORLDWIDE IED EVENTS**

### **Three IEDs detected in Imphal West district**

Times of India, June 13

*Three IEDs were found planted at the Mantripukhri area in the Imphal West district, police said.*

## **TRAINING**

### **Base conducts exercise, tests emergency response procedures**

DVIDS, June 13

*After the simulated explosive device was detonated, 28th Medical Operations Squadron bioenvironmental engineering flight personnel responded to determine if there was a simulated biological agent present.*

### **Clock adds pressure in Fort Carson bomb-disposal contest**

Colorado Springs Gazette, June 13

*Top Fort Carson bomb technicians competed to earn bragging rights in an ordeal that organizers say could be worse than the nerve-racking real thing.*

## **COMMENTARY**

### **Congress must protect 'soft' terrorist targets**

Washington Examiner, June 12

*Our public spaces face an unacceptable terrorist threat. The author emphasizes that there is still plenty to do to secure our public places, which terrorists see as "soft targets." This effort shouldn't involve trampling constitutional liberties, but it will require discarding politically correct pieties.*